Making life better...

one individual at a time.

2004 Annual Report
Visit www.danielsfund.org for the latest news and information about the Daniels Fund, including a complete listing of 2004 grant recipients and the latest Form 990 PF. Every visit to the site offers a new opportunity to learn about a "Featured Nonprofit" or to "Meet a Daniels Scholar." Visitors may also sign-up for the free electronic newsletter offering regular updates on the activities of the Daniels Fund.
Message from our President

The theme of this year’s annual report, “Making Life Better… One Individual at a Time,” captures the spirit of Bill Daniels, who established the Daniels Fund to offer help and hope to those in need.

In the few short years since its founding, the Daniels Fund is transforming thousands of lives through scholarships to deserving students and grants to outstanding nonprofits in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming, as well as to national programs.

- The Daniels Fund Headquarters is a center of nonprofit activity with free meeting space available to nonprofits seven-days-a-week. Office space is also dedicated to nonprofit organizations, free of charge, with missions that fall within the program areas served by the Daniels Fund.
- The Daniels Fund awarded a record 200 new Daniels Fund Scholarships in 2004, bringing the total number of scholarships awarded to nearly 600. The first Daniels Scholars from our pilot class in the year 2000 began graduating in 2004 and are already giving back to their communities in extraordinary ways.
- More than 400 nonprofit organizations received Daniels Fund Grants in 2004, strengthening communities and bringing vital services to those in need. The grant application process was streamlined, and new grant funding strategies were approved to help nonprofits target grant applications more efficiently.
- The Daniels Fund board is comprised of individuals selected by Bill Daniels who share his values and seek to honor his legacy. It was an honor to have one of our members, Jim Nicholson, named Secretary for Veterans Affairs by President George W. Bush.
- The Form 990, posted at www.danielsfund.org/publications, sets a high standard for openness, transparency and accountability. Bill Daniels would demand nothing less.

It is a privilege to serve those benefiting from Bill Daniels’ legacy. From Daniels Scholars to those assisted by our grantees, we strive to honor each and every person who comes to the Daniels Fund.

Sincerely,

Hank Brown
President and CEO, Daniels Fund
The same vision that created a communications dynasty is fast transforming philanthropy throughout the Rocky Mountain West.

Bill Daniels built a cable empire with entrepreneurial zeal and a belief that ethics and integrity translate into business success. Even as one of the nation’s most successful business leaders, his concern for others and personal acts of generosity were the stuff of legend.

Bill described himself as being, “for the underdog, for the unhealthy, homeless, hungry, for guys who need a second chance…” He wanted to give people a chance at a better life through programs encouraging personal responsibility and achievement.

In World War II and the Korean Conflict, Bill was a naval fighter pilot who retired as a Commander in the U.S. Navy. During his service, he shot down 11 enemy aircraft and was awarded a bronze star for his valor during an enemy attack on the aircraft carrier Intrepid.

As one of the pioneers in cable television, Bill operated hundreds of cable TV systems across the country from his Denver headquarters. The firm he founded, Daniels & Associates, is nationally recognized as a leading provider of investment banking services to media and technology companies. His leadership helped bring numerous hi-tech and communications companies to the Front Range.
Among Bill’s most notable philanthropic projects were his pioneering efforts in education. He founded the Young Americans Bank in 1987 and collaborated with the University of Denver to establish the Daniels College of Business.

Bill brought his unique style to all his philanthropic endeavors—a very personal concern and involvement with individuals in need and the organizations that serve them. Bill did more than sign checks—he sought out and interacted with the less fortunate.

In 1997, he established the Daniels Charitable Fund, later named the Daniels Fund, which operates the Daniels College Prep and Scholarship Program and the Daniels Fund Grants Program in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. When he passed away in 2000, his $1 billion estate transferred to the Fund, making it the largest foundation in the Rocky Mountain Region.

Through his lifetime of generosity and the organizations that carry on his legacy, Bill Daniels continues to offer help and hope to others.
During his lifetime, Bill Daniels gave without counting the cost. He expected nothing in return but was grateful to those who responded to his assistance by committing their lives to helping others as he did.

A grantee forwarded a letter to the Daniels Fund from an elementary school student and his mother expressing thanks for his new eyeglasses. In a brief note, the student explained that he could see better in class and no longer suffered from painful headaches. To illustrate his message, he added a giant drawing of his new glasses. In expressing her gratitude, his mother added, “Hopefully someday, I can bless someone in need of something that can repay the kindness you have shown us.”

Bill Daniels would have loved it.

Bill established the Daniels Fund Grants Program to support nonprofit organizations in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming, as well as programs with a national impact. And he identified the program areas eligible for grants: Aging, Alcoholism & Substance Abuse, Amateur Sports, Disabilities, Education, Homeless & Disadvantaged and Youth Development.

The Daniels Fund board approved a record level of grant funding in 2004. A comprehensive listing of 2004 grant recipients is available on the Daniels Fund website at www.danielsfund.org.

Opening Access to Grants

The Daniels Fund Grants Program reached an important milestone at the start of 2004, as grantmaking expanded to serve all program areas in all regions served by the Fund. Until the program grew to full scale, grants had been made only in targeted program areas in some states.

In addition, the application process was streamlined to make it easier for nonprofit organizations to apply for grants. Applications are now welcome at any time throughout the year, and the board meets quarterly to review grants.
Grant Funding Priorities

In 2004, the board reviewed our funding areas and determined where best to focus our efforts in each area. Comprehensive information on the new funding priorities is available on the Daniels Fund website, www.danielsfund.org.

Serving Our Communities

In 2004, Daniels Fund program officers visited organizations throughout the four states on a monthly basis. The intent is to meet with leaders in the communities to better evaluate their funding needs, as well as make sure that nonprofits in each community know about our funding areas and priorities. A selection of community outreach efforts are highlighted below.

In addition, the Daniels Fund sponsored an event in all four states promoting college access for students lacking financial resources, as well as sponsoring a high-school assembly program in Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming that teaches students the power of the choices they make on the rest of their lives.

Colorado

The Daniels Fund actively engaged in efforts to strengthen Colorado communities including joining several foundations for an ongoing discussion regarding the unique needs of rural Colorado; working on a collaborative statewide effort to assess the strengths and needs of the aging population; and partnering with the Colorado Housing and Homeless Funding Collaborative to seek system-wide solutions to homelessness.

New Mexico

The Daniels Fund participated in efforts to address key issues in program areas addressed by the Fund. Community meetings took place with a variety of organizations, including the New Mexico Homeless Strategy Group and the New Mexico Association of Grantmakers. Efforts have been made to more actively engage both rural and urban communities throughout the state.
Utah
The Daniels Fund continued to identify key community issues in our program areas by collaborating with statewide partners such as the Utah Nonprofits Association, representatives from the Governor’s office, Utah State Office of Education, Utah Issues, and Children First Utah. Our outreach efforts to Native American populations in Utah continued as the Fund met with various stakeholders of Native American welfare including the Director of Utah Division of Indian Affairs, the Utah American Indian Housing Authority, the Enterprise Foundation, Tribal representatives throughout Utah, and nonprofit agencies serving Native American populations.

Wyoming
In 2004, the Daniels Fund hosted community meetings with local nonprofits, elected officials and community leaders in each of the 23 counties. The community meetings were designed to build relationships, increase the awareness of the Daniels Fund and provide an opportunity to review funding priorities and application procedures.

1. Meals On Wheels - CO
2. Habitat for Humanity of Southwest Utah - UT
3. Colorado Range Riders Youth Corps - CO
4. Camp Invention - OH
5. Colfax Community Network - CO
National Programs
National grants are designed to impact our funding areas at a level beyond the four-state region. In 2004, the Fund focused on education reform, aging in place, ethics in education, and providing equipment for the rehabilitation of disabled service men and women.

Community Outreach
The Daniels Fund Grants Program provided key funding and organizational support for several programs and initiatives impacting communities in the states served by the Fund:

Parents Are The Power
The Daniels Fund teamed up with the Denver District Attorney’s Office and 9News for the drug and alcohol awareness campaign, “Parents Are The Power.” The effort combines on-air spots with online information to reinforce a parent’s powerful role in the life of his/her child and to provide specific tools and ideas for steering their child away from drugs.

New Mexico Military Institute
As a graduate of the New Mexico Military Institute (NMMI), Bill Daniels supported the NMMI tradition of educating
tomorrow’s leaders through a program of strong, challenging academics, leadership preparation and character development.

In 2004, NMMI received a $2.5 million Daniels Fund grant to support expansion efforts on campus. The award is part of a multi-year challenge grant of $20 million intended to benefit NMMI programs in academics, leadership education and training, and character development.

Colorado Higher Education Philanthropy Summit

Leaders from 29 colleges and universities across Colorado met with foundations at the Daniels Fund in September 2004 for the Colorado Higher Education Philanthropy Summit. Faced with a 21 percent cut in state general fund support in the past three years, the leaders in higher education gathered to discuss funding priorities at the summit sponsored by top Colorado foundations and the Daniels Fund.
Daniels Fund - Funding Areas

Aging — Ensuring older adults achieve maximum independence and quality of life by supporting in-home services, community engagement, and end of life / palliative care.

Alcoholism and Substance Abuse — Ensuring youth and adults with alcohol and substance abuse challenges achieve stability by supporting prevention, treatment, and supportive/after-care services.

Amateur Sports — Ensuring the opportunity for amateur participation in quality youth sports programs, as well as national and international competition, in order to foster increased sportsmanship, confidence, discipline and leadership.

Disabilities — Ensuring physically and developmentally disabled individuals and their families achieve maximum independence and quality of life by funding supportive services for the developmentally disabled and providing equipment, training and technical assistance for those who are physically disabled.

Education — Early Childhood Education Reform – Impacting the quality of early childhood education systems to ensure school readiness.

K-12 Reform – Impacting the quality of K – 12 education to ensure student achievement by supporting school choice (such as charter schools and voucher programs), parental involvement, teacher quality and adopt a school programs.

Ethics and Integrity – Impacting the quality of ethics curriculum to foster principle-centered leadership.

Homeless and Disadvantaged — Ensuring that homeless individuals and families achieve and maintain self-sufficiency by supporting emergency services and transitional housing with supportive services.

Youth Development — Ensuring the opportunity for youth to develop character and gain the necessary life skills to become successful adults by supporting academic and supplemental services, civic literacy and community engagement, financial literacy and entrepreneurship, along with vocational training.

To download the Daniels Fund Grant Application or Grant Funding Priorities, please visit www.danielsfund.org.

2004 Daniels Fund Grant Recipients
A comprehensive listing of the 2004 grant recipients is available on the Daniels Fund website at www.danielsfund.org.

Contact Us
For information on the Daniels Fund Grants program, call 303-393-7220, 1-877-791-4726 (toll-free) or visit www.danielsfund.org.
A top priority for Bill Daniels in establishing the Daniels Fund was to provide college scholarships to promising students in financial need. He recognized how important it is for young people, especially those who face greater challenges in life, to attend and graduate from college.

Bill provided specific instructions to seek out students demonstrating academic performance and promise, strength of character, a well-rounded personality, and a commitment to give back to the community. He wanted to identify students overlooked by other programs and who otherwise might not have the opportunity to pursue postsecondary education, and help them achieve the dreams of attending and graduating from college.

From a small pilot program launched in the year 2000, the Daniels College Prep and Scholarship Program grew in 2004 to serve more than 550 Daniels Scholars attending 160 colleges and universities across the United States on full, “unmet need” scholarships.

The largest-ever class of Daniels Scholars – 200 deserving young people from across Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming – was named in 2004. The first Daniels Scholars from Utah, made up entirely of Native American students, will be selected in 2005.
Daniels College Prep Program

In 2004, the Daniels College Prep Program continued to expand with the goal of opening access to all eligible students in the geographic regions served by the Daniels Fund.

Key initiatives during the year included establishing and maintaining formal partnerships with other college prep providers that serve a similar “profile” of students; building capacity in schools and communities where college prep programming and resources are insufficient or non-existent; helping deliver college prep programming in underserved and targeted areas; and funding a targeted number of extended summer workshops in strategic – mostly rural – regions across the Fund’s four-state service area.

Daniels Fund Scholarships

A milestone celebrated in May 2004 was the graduation of the first Daniels Scholars from the inaugural pilot class of 2000. The graduates moved on to amazing careers and are already giving back to the community in significant ways.

Including those who have graduated, nearly 600 students from across Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming have been named Daniels Scholars. Many are the first in their families to have attended college, and all are a source of pride to their communities.

Daniels Fund Scholarships are applied to any unmet need after other federal, state, institutional, and eligible private financial aid and scholarships. Items covered include all required tuition and fees, books and supplies, and a variety of other miscellaneous expenses that can prevent students from completing their education. Students may use their scholarship at any two- or four-year accredited college or university in the United States with an intention to complete a bachelor’s degree.
Scholars Heading Into the Future Together

The summer before entering college, newly selected Daniels Scholars participate in the Scholars Heading Into the Future Together (SHIFT) program, a multi-day summer workshop designed to prepare them for new experiences and challenges they will face in college.

At SHIFT, Daniels Scholars are introduced to the Daniels Fund associates who will provide personal support, accountability and personal assistance throughout the college experience. They also receive their Student Handbook, which sets the standard of academic and personal excellence required of Daniels Scholars. The handbook also includes a brief history of Bill Daniels’ life and a description of his concern for others that led him to establish the Daniels Fund.

Daniels Fund Graduate Fellowships

A new effort unveiled in 2004 was the Daniels Fund Graduate Fellowship. Daniels Scholars who earn a 3.3 cumulative grade point average or higher and graduate in the top quarter of their class are eligible to receive funding for graduate studies.

Daniels Opportunity Awards

Leaders in higher education from Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming gathered in May 2004 at the Daniels Fund for the announcement of the 2004 Daniels Opportunity Awards, a $2.16 million partnership to get scholarship funding into the hands of non-traditional students at risk of not being able to afford a college education.

Colleges and universities—both public and private, two- and four-year across the Fund’s four state region received Daniels Opportunity Awards, valued from $25,000 to $150,000 each. The awards were distributed to the institutions and converted directly into scholarships to support non-traditional students such as adults pursuing education later in life, GED recipients, transfer students, and those who’ve been in the foster care system.
Opening Access to College—local, regional, and national partnerships

Pathways to College Network and “A Shared Agenda”
In early May, the Daniels Fund hosted the western regional release of “A Shared Agenda: A Leadership Challenge to Improve College Access and Success.” This comprehensive report was produced by the Pathways to College Network, a national initiative committed to improving college access and success for underserved populations, and a Daniels Fund national grant recipient.

The College Track
In 2004, the Daniels Fund joined forces with local non-profit organizations, higher education system offices, government, K-12 and higher education entities, and public television stations across our four-state region to support the national engagement campaign surrounding a three-part television documentary—“The College Track: America’s Sorting Machine.”

The Daniels Fund provided underwriting for the airing of the documentary, produced by Roundtable, Inc.©, and organized community meetings in Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming to preview the series. The three-part series also aired in Utah. The initiative was designed to help families and communities ensure that all children receive the education they must have to be successful in life and prepared to attend and graduate from college.

Daniels Fund Volunteer Opportunities
The Daniels Fund offers volunteer opportunities for those interested in committing their time to a program that makes an enormous difference in the lives of underserved youth. Volunteers assist in coaching students in the college admissions process, reviewing applications for the Daniels College Prep and Scholarship Program, as well as in interviewing candidates for the Daniels Fund Scholarship.

For information on the Daniels College Prep and Scholarship Program, contact the Daniels Fund at 303-393-7220, 1-877-791-4726 (toll-free), or visit www.danielsfund.org.
Bill Daniels loved Denver and for more than 30 years maintained his principle residence and corporate offices within a mile of the site he identified for the Daniels Fund headquarters.

Meeting space at the Daniels Fund is available free-of-charge to nonprofit organizations. The five distinctive meeting rooms can accommodate small or large gatherings. The space is available Monday through Sunday, including most evenings.

Visitors may park at no cost at the Daniels Fund's new parking lot at 1st Ave. and Madison St., just west of the building. Parking is also available in the underground garage by prior arrangement.

In addition to the offices for Daniels Fund associates, the headquarters offers office space free-of-charge to a limited number of nonprofit organizations. This enables them to direct more of their funding to much-needed programs serving those in need.

The Daniels Fund is located at 101 Monroe Street in Denver. For more information or to schedule a meeting, please call 303-393-7220 or 1-877-791-4726 (toll-free) or visit www.danielsfund.org.
Bill Daniels saw America as, “the greatest nation on earth, where boundless opportunities still exist for each and every one of us.” He appreciated the extraordinary success he was able to achieve in life, and he formed the Daniels Fund in 1997 to offer help and hope to people in need through programs encouraging personal responsibility and achievement.

Bill defined his philanthropic goals for the Daniels Fund in precise terms in the articles of incorporation and bylaws. When he passed away in the year 2000, the bulk of his estate transferred to the Daniels Fund, making it the largest foundation in the Rocky Mountain Region.

**Daniels College Prep and Scholarship Program**

Bill stipulated that 30 percent of the Fund’s annual distributions be allocated to the Daniels College Prep and Scholarship Program. He directed that the funding be used for scholarships and other financial assistance to students from the following states in the following approximate percentages: 75% in Colorado, 10% in New Mexico, 10% in Wyoming, and 5% in Utah.

**Daniels Fund Grants Program**

Bill stipulated that 70 percent of the Fund’s annual distributions be directed to the Daniels Fund Grants Program according to the following allocations: Metro Denver 50%; Colorado 15%; New Mexico 10%; Utah 5%; Wyoming 10%; and National Grants, 10%.

**2004 Daniels Fund Financial Statements**

The 2004 audited financial statements and the annual tax return are available on the Daniels Fund website at www.danielsfund.org/publications.
1. 2004 Daniels Scholar, Shehila Stephens, on Today Show with Al Roker and Carrie Bessnette
2. Hank Brown, Linda Childears, and Don Gallegos, former President and CEO of King Soopers
3. Hank Brown visits Escuela de Guadalupe in Denver
4. Daniels Scholars on 9News set in Denver
5. Police Activities League Press Conference with Haven Moses, Chief Gerald Whitman, and Hank Brown
6. Neighborhood Hero Award at Boys and Girls Club
7. Neighborhood Hero Award Recipient Joshua Staten
8. Hank Brown and KOOL announce grant for Food Bank of the Rockies
9. Lauren Casteel of Denver Foundation attends Colorado Higher Education Summit at Daniels Fund
Visit www.danielsfund.org for the latest news and information about the Daniels Fund. The site offers updated information on career opportunities and information about our founder, Bill Daniels. When you visit, please sign-up for the free electronic newsletter that offers the latest information and breaking news from the Fund. Resources on the website include: